

CIPOLLONE: At the status conference before Magistrate Cowen last Thursday, September 5, many dates were set. A copy of the draft order is attached, at Robert Northrip's request . . . while the case has not been set for trial, the trial is "targeted" to begin next September . . . the depositions of both the Roper and Gallup organizations, scheduled for September 11 and 20 respectively, have been postponed; no new dates have been set . . . on September 10, plaintiffs filed a deposition notice for Ted Bates & Company, to be taken on October 17 at Porzio, Bronberg's New York City office.

TEXAS: We have additional details to report on the three newest cases, Dixon, Edwards and Shedrick:

In Dixon, plaintiff Richard Dixon, 44, claims he has coronary heart disease that was discovered May 20, 1985. Mr. Dixon's wife, Geneva, 38, is also a plaintiff. The Dixons live in Beaumont. R.J. Reynolds is the only tobacco defendant in Dixon, and local distributors are also named.

Shedrick, which names R.J. Reynolds, American Brands and Brown & Williamson, as well as local distributors, claims that plaintiff Virginia Mae Shedrick has lung cancer; her illness was diagnosed in October 11, 1983. Mrs. Shedrick, 54, and her husband, Murray, 61, also a plaintiff in this action, live in Port Arthur, Texas.

Edwards also names R.J. Reynolds, American Brands, Brown & Williamson and local distributors. Plaintiff Rubert Edwards, Jr., acting individually and as survivor of Lois Evelyn Edwards, claims Lois Evelyn Edwards, born in 1938, died of lung cancer in September 1984; her disease was diagnosed in November 1983. Four of the Edwards' children are also plaintiffs. The complaint states plaintiff Rubert Edwards, Jr., is a resident of San Augustine County (north of Jefferson County), while decedent died in Tyler County (approximately 100 miles north of Jefferson County).

As we reported last week, all three cases were filed by representatives of the CigLit group and are in the same jurisdiction as the five other cases brought by CigLit, District Court of Jefferson County, Texas (Beaumont) . . . the five existing cases are Almquist, Duke, Linscomb, Petkovsek and Rogers.

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